

Message Text

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SUBJ: UN APARTHEID COMMITTEE: REMARKS OF NIGERIAN PERMREP

REF : (A) LAGOS 2568 (B) USUN 752

1. FEDERAL MINISTRY INFORMATION HAS ISSUED PRESS RELEASE PROVIDING OFFICIAL FMG STATEMENT ON AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN'S FEBRUARY 27 ADDRESS TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID. IN VIEW OUR PREVIOUS EXCHANGES THIS MATTER, ENTIRE PRESS RELEASE BEING SENT FOR INFORMATION ADDRESSEES:

2. "NIGERIA'S AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. LESLIE HARRIMAN HAS OBSERVED THAT THE EVENTS IN ANGOLA PRECEDING THE MURDER OF THE LATE HEAD OF STATE OF NIGERIA, GENERAL MURTALA MUHAMMED, WERE TOO CLOSE TO THE STAND OF THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER HIM AS TO BE VIEWED IN ISOLATION FROM HIS DEATH. AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN MADE THIS OBSERVATION WHILE ADDRESSING THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID IN NEW YORK RECENTLY DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM/RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA."

3. "HE NOTED THAT APARTHEID FORCES, BACKED BY FINANCIAL AND MILITARY RESOURCES OF A SECTION OF THE WORLD, HAD EARLIER
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EMBARKED ON AN ADVENTURE OF PLUNDER AND DESTRUCTION IN ANGOLA

WHILE THEIR MASS MEDIA LAUNCH A CAMPAIGN OF CALUMNY, BLACM-MAIL AND BAREFACED LIES TO WAGE A DIPLOMATIC AND PROPAGANDA WAR AIMED AT DESTROYING THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY. HAVING FAILED TO DESTROY THE O.A.U. THE AMBASSADOR CONTINUED, THE HEO-COLONIALISTS MOUNTED A CAMPAIGN OF RECRUITING SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE FROM EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES IN A FUTILE ATTEMPT TO STEM THE TIDE OF HISTORY AND FREEDOM IN ANGOLA. HE REMARKED THAT THE MERCENARIES AND THE APARTHEID RACIST ARMY WERE ON THE RUN ON ALL FRONTS AND THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT HAD JUST ESTABLISHED A DIPLOMATIC MISSION AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL IN LUANDA WHEN THE TRAUMATIC MURDERS IN NIGERIA OCCURRED."

4. "CONTINUING HIS ADDRESS TO THE COMMITTEE, THE NIGERIAN ENVOY DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE FACT THAT JUST OVER TWO MONTHS AGO, IN THE SAME CHAMBER IN WHICH HE WAS ADDRESSING THE COMMITTEE, THE UNITED STATES PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. DANIEL MOYNIHAN ADDRESSED A PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA DURING WHICH HE ALLEGED A NEW COLONIALISM BY THE SOVIET UNION WAS CONTROLLING THE SEA ROUTE VIA THE HORN OF AFRICA AND THEREFORE THE OIL ROUTE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST. HE FURTHER RECALLED THE ASSERTION BY MR. MOYNIHAN THAT THE SOVIET UNION WAS GAINING AN INFLUENCE OVER THE CAPE ROUTE THROUGH MOZAMBIQUE AND HIS CONCLUSION THAT WITH THE SO-CALLED FRIENDSHIP WITH NIGERIA THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD NOW CONTROL THE VAST OIL FIELDS AND WEST COAST OF AFRICA AND IMPLANT COMMUNISM IN AFRICA AND HOW HE WENT FURTHER TO DEFEND THE SOUTH AFRICAN AND C.I.A. AGGRESSION IN ANGOLA."

5. "THE PRONOUNCEMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE WERE DISMISSED AS THE USUAL JIBE AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION AT THAT TIME, THE AMBASSADOR OBSERVED. THE KILLING OF THE HEAD OF A GOVERNMENT WHICH STOOD IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE STRUGGLE TO CONTAIN THE NAKED AGGRESSION OF SOUTH AFRICA AGAINST ANGOLA BY SOME SELF STYLED "YOUNG REVOLUTIONARIES" WHO GAVE AS EXCUSE THE SO-CALLED "RESCUE" OF NIGERIA FROM COMMUNISM AND ITS RETURN TO A NON-ALIGNED POLICY, COMPELS EVERYONE TO LOOK AT THE WHOLE AFFAIRS MORE DEEPLY."

6. "HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT REMAINS UNCLASSIFIED

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UNDAUNTED IN ITS RESOLVE TO SUPPORT FREEDOM FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA. HE DECLARED, 'IT WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED ON AN ISSUE THAT TOUCHES ON THE DIGNITY OF THE BLACK MAN AND HIS QUEST TO EXERCISE HIS INALIENABLE RIGHTS TO SELF-DETERMINATION'."

7. "RECOUNTING THE TACTICS OF THE RACISTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO IN THE REGION, THE AMBASSADOR OBSERVED THAT AFTER THE SUCCESSFUL IMPOSITION OF A MINORITY

REGIME IN SOUTH AFRICA, THE PRESENT REGIME OF THAT COUNTRY, SUPPORTED BY THE WESTERN POWERS, WENT AHEAD TO TURN A MANDATE OF GOOD FAITH IN NAMIBIA INTO AN INSTRUMENT OF ACQUISITION AND THEN VENTURED FURTHER NORTH TO INSTALL THE PUPPET REBEL REGIME OF IAN SMITH IN ZIMBABWE. HE SAID THAT IT WAS IN ANGOLA FOR THE FIRST TIME, THAT APARTHEID EMBARKED ON A MILITARY ESCAPEDE ON THE SCOPE AND MANNER IT HAD DONE. THE NAKED AGGRESSION OF THE PRETORIA REGIME AGAINST INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES, HE SAID, MEANT THAT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AGAINST APARTHEID HAD A NEW DIMENSION TO TACKLE IN THE CONTINUING STRUGGLE FOR THE LIBERATION OF SOUTH AFRICA. AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN CALLED THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE FACT THAT THE RACIST TROOPS OF SOUTH AFRICA ARE MASSED ALONG THE ENTIRE ANGOLA/NAMIBIA BORDER AND NOT AT THE POINT OF A HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT IT CLAIMS TO DEFEND. THE AMBASSADOR DECLARED, 'THEIR TRUE INTENTION IS TO STEM THE WAVE OF NATIONLIST INCURSIONS INTO NAMIBIA FOR THE LIBERATION OF THAT TERRITORY. IT IS ONLY PART OF THE STRATEGY OF GRADUAL RETREAT TOWARDS A LAST DITCH STAND'."

8. "ANGOLA, HE CONTINUED, HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST BLACK AFRICA IN WHICH THE WESTERN POWERS ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED DEVOLVES FROM THE COMMITMENT OF THESE SAME POWERS TO THE CAUSE OF APARTHEID AND SUCH CAN ONLY CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICA TO FLOUT UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS."

9. "CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES, WEST GERMANY, JAPAN AND OTHERS IN THE SAME BOAT TO RE-EXAMINE THEIR INHUMAN POLICIES IN SOUTH AFRICA BEFORE THE WHOLE REGION IS ENGULFED IN THE FLAMES OF LIBERATION WARS AND ALSO ON THE RACISTS OF SOUTH AFRICA FOR AN IMMEDIATE GESTURE OF EQUAL STATUS TOWARDS AFRICANS IN SOUTH AFRICA, AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN PLACED ON RECORD THE WARNING BY NIGERIA THAT IN THE EVENT OF A LIBERATION WAR

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BREAKING OUT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, NIGERIA WILL ANSWER THE CALL ON THE SIDE OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. HE ADVISED AFRICAN COUNTRIES AGAINST FALLING PREY TO THE PROPAGANDA OF THE WESTERN IMPERIALISTS WHO SPEAK OF "A MONSTER FROM THE EAST" SO THAT THEY MAY USE THE BLACKS TO STAND AGAINST FELLOW BLACKS IN AFRICA."

10. "EARLIER, THE COMMITTEE HAD EXPRESSED GREAT SORROW AT THE ASSASSINATION OF GENERAL MURTALA MUHAMMED. THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT DUEING THE BRIEF PERIOD HE WAS HEAD OF STATE, HE DEMONSTRATED AN UNCOMPROMISING OPPOSITION TO COLONIALISM AND TO THE ELIMINATION OF THESE CRIMES. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE EXPRESSED THE COMMITTEE'S ENCOURAGEMENT AT THE PLEDGE OF THE NEW HEAD OF STATE, LT. GENERAL OLUSEGUN OBASANJO THAT THE POLICIES PURSUED BY GENERAL MUHAMMED WOULD BE PURSUED WITH COURAGE AND DETERMINATION."

11. "THE COMMITTEE OBSERVED A MINUTE OF SILENCE IN MEMORY
OF GENERAL MURTALA MUHAMMED."
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